

03050109-010
(North Saluda River)

General Description

Watershed 03050109-010 is located in Greenville County and consists primarily of the *North Saluda River* and its tributaries. The watershed occupies 48,388 acres of the Blue Ridge and Piedmont regions of South Carolina. The predominant soil types consist of an association of the Ashe-Cecil series. The erodibility of the soil (K) averages 0.25; the slope of the terrain averages 25%, with a range of 2-65%. Land use/land cover in the watershed includes: 1.29% urban land, 3.13% agricultural land, 0.17% scrub/shrub land, 0.95% barren land, 92.67% forested land, and 1.79% water.

The North Saluda River originates near the State boundary with North Carolina and flows through Poinsett Reservoir, which is also known as the North Saluda Reservoir. Tributaries of Poinsett Reservoir include: Brice Creek, Brushy Creek, Big Falls Creek (Falls Creek, Posey Creek, Guest Creek), and Little Falls Creek. The portion of the North Saluda River from its headwaters to and including Poinsett Reservoir (drinking water reservoir for the City of Greenville) and its tributaries are classified ORW. The North Saluda River flows out of Poinsett Reservoir and accepts drainage from Calahan Branch, Beaverdam Creek (Terry Creek, Short Branch), Sprigg Creek, Bull Creek, and Talley Creek. Another Beaverdam Creek enters the river near the Town of Marietta as does Whitmire Creek. The river and its tributaries downstream of Poinsett Reservoir are classified FW. There are a total of 87.8 stream miles in this watershed. Pleasant Ridge State Park is located in this watershed.

Water Quality

<u>Station #</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Description</u>
S-292	P	ORW	POINSETT RESERVOIR AT WATER INTAKE
S-088	P	FW/ORW	NORTH SALUDA RIVER AT S-23-42
S-773	BIO	FW	NORTH SALUDA RIVER AT U.S. ROUTE 25
S-004	S	FW	NORTH SALUDA RIVER AT S-23-89

North Saluda River - There are three monitoring stations along the North Saluda River, which was Class B until April, 1992. At the upstream site (S-088), aquatic life uses are fully supported, but there is a significant decreasing trend in dissolved oxygen and a significant increasing trend in turbidity. Significant decreasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand and total nitrogen suggest improving conditions for these parameters. P,P'DDE, a metabolite of DDT, was detected in the 1994, 1995, and 1997 sediment samples, and P,P'DDT was detected in the 1994 sample. Although the use of DDT was banned in 1973, it is very persistent in the environment. Recreational uses are fully supported and a significant decreasing trend in fecal coliform bacteria concentration suggests improving conditions for this parameter. Aquatic life uses are fully supported at the midstream site (S-773) based on macroinvertebrate community data. At the downstream site (S-004), aquatic life uses are again fully supported, but there is a significant increasing trend in turbidity. Significant decreasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand and total phosphorus concentration suggest improving conditions for these parameters. Recreational uses are not supported at this site due to fecal coliform bacteria excursions.

North Saluda Reservoir or Poinsett Reservoir (S-292) - Aquatic life uses are fully supported, but there is a significant decreasing trend in dissolved oxygen concentration and a significant increasing trend in pH. Significant decreasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand, total phosphorus concentration, and turbidity suggest improving conditions for these parameters. Recreational uses are fully supported and a

significant decreasing trend in fecal coliform bacteria concentration suggests improving conditions for this parameter.

Permitted Activities

Point Source Contributions

<i>RECEIVING STREAM FACILITY NAME PERMITTED FLOW @ PIPE (MGD) COMMENT</i>	<i>NPDES# TYPE LIMITATION</i>
NORTH SALUDA RIVER JPS CONVERTER & INDUSTRIES PIPES #: 001-005 FLOW: M/R	SCG250012 MINOR INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENT
NORTH SALUDA RIVER WCRSA/SLATER/MARIETTA PIPE #: 001 FLOW: 0.672 WQL FOR TRC	SC0026883 MINOR MUNICIPAL WATER QUALITY

Nonpoint Source Contributions

Streambank and Silvicultural Demonstration Project

The streambank component of this project demonstrates BMPs related to streambank stabilization and restoration to homeowners and local governments. It is being implemented by the Greenville County Conservation District and is located on a tributary to the Reedy River. The silvicultural demonstration component of the project is located in the watersheds of the North and South Saluda River watersheds. It is demonstrating proper timber harvesting BMPs to forest landowners in the watershed. The project began in August of 1996 and is scheduled to be completed in April of 1999.

Camp Facilities

<i>FACILITY NAME/TYPE RECEIVING STREAM</i>	<i>PERMIT # STATUS</i>
LOOK-UP LODGE/RESIDENT NORTH SALUDA RIVER	23-305-0116 ACTIVE
PLEASANT RIDGE STATE PARK/FAMILY NORTH SALUDA RIVER TRIBUTARY	23-307-0139 ACTIVE
CAMP OLD INDIAN/RESIDENT NORTH SALUDA RIVER TRIBUTARY	23-305-0114 ACTIVE

Water Supply

WATER USER (TYPE)
WATERBODY

REGULATED CAPACITY (MGD)
PUMPING CAPACITY (MGD)

GREENVILLE WATER SYSTEM (M)
NORTH SALUDA RESERVOIR

60.0
90.0

Growth Potential

There is a low potential for development within this mountainous watershed. A portion of the watershed is protected by the City of Greenville and the Nature Conservancy as the Greenville Water Commission Watershed.